

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EUR-25 CU-05 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 DRC-01 /094 W

----- 021369

R 041405Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3674

INFO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, CH, IN

SUBJECT: REPORTED VISIT OF TIBETAN GROUP

REF: NEW DELHI 11642

1. WHOOPS, CONTRARY TO WHAT THE EMBASSY LEARNED FROM THE DALAI LAMA'S REPRESENTATIVE IN DELHI (REFTEL), AND OFFICIAL OF THE BHUTANESE MISSION HERE TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER SEPTEMBER 3 THAT HIS HOLINESS KARMAPA WILL INDEED BE VISITING THE U.S., AS WELL AS SWITZERLAND AND CANADA, IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL, THE KARMAPA WILL BE TRAVELING WITH A BHUTANESE PASSPORT IN A PARTY OF TWELVE TO FOURTEEN AT THE INVITATION OF A CANADIAN PRIVATE ORGANIZATION INTERESTED IN TEBETAN CULTURE AND RELIGION. THE OFFICIAL SAID THE VISIT WOULD BE FOR SPIRITUAL PURPOSES AND THE KARMAPA WOULD NOT BE PRESENTING DANCE PROGRAMS SO FAR AS HE WAS AWARE.

2. COMMENT: AMPLIFYING PARAGRAPH 2 REFTTEL, THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT THE KARMAPA HEADS THE KAGYUPA SECT WHICH HAS A FOLLOWING IN BHUTAN, SIKKIM, NORTHERN NEPAL AND WESTERN TIBET. HE IS A PURELY SPIRITUAL LEADER UNLIKE THE DALAI LAMA, AND HAS RESIDED IN SIKKIM SINCE FLEEING

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FROM HIS MONASTERY IN KHAM FROM THE CHINESE.

3. THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION INFORMS US THAT IT HAS
NO INFORMATION SO FAR ON ANY VISIT PLANNED BY THE KARMAPA
AND HIS GROUP. THOUGH WE WILL STAY IN CONTACT WITH THE
CANADIANS IN THE EXPECTATION THE KARMAPA WILL APPLY THERE
FOR VISAS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE IN THE
EVENT HE APPROACHES US FOR VISAS FIRST.
MOYNIHAN

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